

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-47. (canceled)

48. (currently amended) A method for ~~condensing and recovering a solvent from~~ drying a coating layer which is formed by applying a coating solution containing a solvent to a surface of a moving web, comprising:

transporting said moving web at an angle from 60° to 90° from a horizontal direction after said applying, said surface of said moving web being directed upward when said angle is less than 90°;

drying said coating layer;

during said drying, condensing a vapor of said solvent by a device at least one condenser configured for condensing and recovering said solvent, said at least one condenser being arranged to such that a condensing surface of the at least one condenser faces a surface of said coating layer having been formed on said web, and said device at least one condenser being composed of a condensing member and a recovery member protrusions and grooves formed on said condensing surface, and a gutter; and

recovering the condensed vapor of said solvent by said device gutter of said at least one condenser,

wherein said gutter is disposed in parallel to a transporting direction of said web.

49. (currently amended) The method claimed in claim 48, wherein said ~~condensing member~~ protrusions and said ~~recovery member~~ grooves are thermally insulated from ~~each other~~ said gutter.

50. (canceled)

51. (canceled)

52. (currently amended) The method claimed in claim 48, wherein said ~~recovery member~~ is grooves are connected to said ~~condensing member~~ gutter, and said condensed vapor flows into said ~~recovery member~~ gutter from said ~~condensing member~~ grooves.

53. (currently amended) The method claimed in claim 48, further comprising keeping a temperature of said ~~recovery member~~ protrusions and grooves higher than that of said ~~condensing member~~ gutter by a temperature control mechanism such that said vapor of said solvent does not condense on said ~~recovery member~~ protrusions and grooves.

54. (currently amended) The method claimed in claim 48, wherein said ~~condensing member~~ protrusions, said grooves and said ~~recovery member~~ gutters are integrated with each other.

55. (currently amended) The method claimed in claim 54, wherein ~~surfaces of said condensing member and said recovery member for facing a surface of said coating layer are~~ said condensing surface of said at least one condenser is parallel to a moving said transporting direction of said web, and said moving direction is reverse to a gravitational direction, and said ~~recovery member~~ gutter is disposed at an upstream position from said ~~condensing member~~ protrusions and grooves along said ~~moving~~ transporting direction.

56. (currently amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~for condensing and recovering a solvent from a coating layer which is formed by applying a coating solution containing solvent to a moving web,~~ comprising:

~~condensing vapor of said solvent by a device for condensing and recovering said solvent arranged to face a surface of said coating layer having been formed on said web, and said device being composed of a condensing member and a recovery member; and recovering the condensed vapor of said solvent by said device;~~ claimed in claim 48,

wherein a distance between said ~~surface of said condensing member~~ protrusions and said surface of said coating layer is in a range of 5 mm to 10 mm.

57. (canceled)

58. (canceled)